

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-9 have been amended to further define the invention. The specification has been amended to correct a typographical error pointed out by the Examiner. The drawings have been amended to include a missing callout number. No new matter has been included as a result of these amendments. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found in Figures 2 and 3 and the corresponding text.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

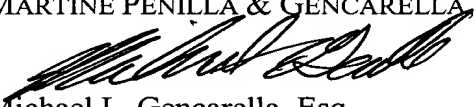
Applicants respectfully submit that US Patent No. 6,460,120 to Bass et al. fails to disclose or teach the features incorporated into independent claims 1, 5, and 8. In particular, Bass is silent as to a first pipelined lookup table having a single row of a first set of data pairs, a second pipelined lookup table having a plurality of rows of a second set of data pairs of claim 1, and an associated data engine having a first lookup table having a plurality of rows, wherein a portion of bits of the key value is used to select one of the plurality of rows as an output, a remaining portion of the bits of the key value identifying a row in a second lookup table having a plurality of rows of claim 5. With respect to claim 8, nowhere does Bass mention the details of the successive searching as specified in amended claim 8. For at least these reasons, the corresponding dependent claims are not anticipated by Bass. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-9.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 774-6921. If any fees are due in connection with the

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filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. ALTEP068). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of Figure 2 includes callout number 60.